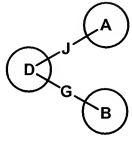
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein

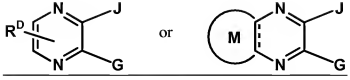
ring A, ring B, and ring D each independently represents a cyclic group which may be substituted;

J represents a bond or a spacer having 1 to 8 atoms in its main chain; and

G represents a bond or a spacer having 1 to 4 atoms in its main chain;

wherein

is



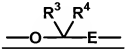
wherein R^D represents a substituent of ring D;

---- represents a single bond or a double bond; and

M represents a 3- to 11-membered monocyclic or bicyclic cyclic group which may be substituted;

ring B is a C_{3-8} monocyclic carbocyclic ring which may be substituted or a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s) which may be substituted;

J is



wherein R^3 and R^4 each independently represents hydrogen or C_{1-8} alkyl; and

E represents a bond or a spacer having 1 to 6 atoms in its main chain;

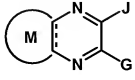
G is $-NR^{T1}-SO_2-$

wherein R^{T1} represents hydrogen, C_{1-8} alkyl which may be substituted, C_{2-8} alkenyl which may be substituted, C_{2-8} alkynyl which may be substituted or a 3- to 8-membered cyclic group which may be substituted;

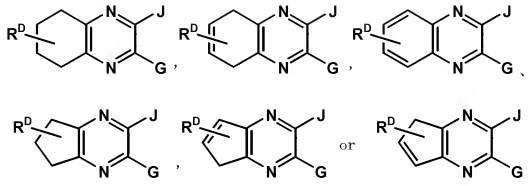
or a salt thereof.

Claims 2-6. (canceled).

7. (currently amended): The compound according to claim 61, wherein



is



wherein

R^D has the same meaning as described in claim 61.

8. (original): The compound according to claim 1, wherein ring A is a carbocyclic ring which may be substituted.

9. (original): The compound according to claim 1, wherein ring A is a heterocyclic ring which may be substituted.

10. (original): The compound according to claim 8, wherein the carbocyclic ring is a C_{3-15} monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic carbocyclic ring.

11. (original): The compound according to claim 9, wherein the heterocyclic ring is a 3- to 15-membered monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s).

12. (original): The compound according to claim 10, wherein the carbocyclic ring is a benzene ring or a naphthalene ring.

13. (original): The compound according to claim 11 wherein the heterocyclic ring is a pyridine ring, a pyrazole ring, a dioxaindane ring or a benzodioxane ring.

Claims 14 - 19. (canceled).

20. (currently amended): The compound according to claim ~~18~~1, wherein the C_{3-8} monocyclic carbocyclic ring represented by ring B is a benzene ring.

21. (currently amended): The compound according to claim ~~19~~1, wherein the 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s) represented by ring B is a pyridine ring or a thiophene ring.

Claims 22-24. (canceled).

25. (currently amended): The compound according to claim ~~24~~1, wherein R^3 and R^4 each independently represents hydrogen or methyl.

26. (currently amended): The compound according to claim ~~24~~1, wherein E is a bond[[,]].

27. (currently amended): The compound according to claim ~~24~~1, wherein E is a spacer having 1 to 6 atoms in its main chain.

28. (original): The compound according to claim 27, wherein E is C_{1-4} alkylene or C_{1-3} alkyleneoxy.

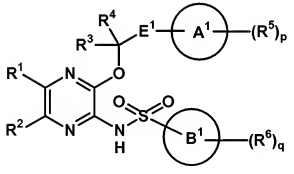
29. (original): The compound according to claim 28, wherein E is methylene or methylenoxy.

30. (canceled).

31. (canceled).

32. (currently amended): The compound according to claim ~~31~~1, wherein G is -NH-SO_2-.

33. (currently amended): The compound according to claim 1, wherein the compound is a compound of formula (A):



(A)

wherein

R^1 and R^2 each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C_{1-8} alkyl, (3) C_{2-8} alkenyl, (4) C_{2-8} alkynyl, (5) halogen, (6) cyano, (7) nitro, (8) -$CONR^7R^8$, (9) -$COOR^9$, (10) Cyc1 or (11) C_{1-8} alkyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) -$CONR^7R^8$, (b) -$COOR^9$, (c) -OR^{10}, (d) -$NR^{11}R^{12}$, (e) halogen, and (f) Cyc1; or

R^1 and R^2 are taken together to represent C_{3-4} alkylene, -CH=CH-CH_2-, -CH_2-CH=CH-, -CH=CH-CH=CH- or -CH=CH-CH_2-CH_2-, wherein the carbocyclic ring to be formed may be substituted with C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{2-8} alkenyl, C_{2-8} alkynyl, C_{1-8} alkoxy, halogen, cyano, nitro or

hydroxyl, wherein R^7 and R^8 each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C_{1-8} alkyl, (3) C_{2-8} alkenyl, (4) C_{2-8} alkynyl, (5) Cyc2, (6) $-OR^{13}$ or (7) C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{2-8} alkenyl or C_{2-8} alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) $-OR^{13}$, (b) $-NR^{14}R^{15}$, (c) $-NR^{16}COR^{17}$, (d) halogen, (e) CF_3, and (f) Cyc2; or R^7 and R^8 are taken together with the adjacent nitrogen atom to represent a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having at least one nitrogen atom as a hetero atom(s) and 0 to 3 nitrogen atoms, 0 to 1 oxygen atom and/or 0 to 1 sulfur atom as an other hetero atom(s), wherein the heterocyclic ring may be substituted with (a) C_{1-8} alkyl, (b) halogen, (c) hydroxyl, or (d) C_{1-8} alkyl substituted with hydroxyl;

R^{13} to R^{17} each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C_{1-8} alkyl, (3) C_{2-8} alkenyl, (4) C_{2-8} alkynyl, (5) Cyc1, or (6) C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{2-8} alkenyl or C_{2-8} alkynyl substituted with Cyc1;

R^9 to R^{12} each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C_{1-8} alkyl, (3) C_{2-8} alkenyl, (4) C_{2-8} alkynyl, (5) Cyc1, or (6) C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{2-8} alkenyl or C_{2-8} alkynyl substituted with Cyc1;

Cyc1 represents a C_{3-15} monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 15-membered monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s), wherein Cyc1 may be substituted with 1 to 5 of R^{18};

R^{18} represents (1) C_{1-8} alkyl, (2) C_{2-8} alkenyl, (3) C_{2-8} alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) trifluoromethyl, (8) trifluoromethoxy, (9) $-OR^{19}$, (10) $-SR^{20}$, (11) $-NR^{21}R^{22}$, (12) $-COR^{23}$, (13) $-COOR^{24}$, (14) $-NR^{25}COR^{26}$, (15) $-CONR^{27}R^{28}$, (16) Cyc2, or (17) C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{2-8} alkenyl or C_{2-8} alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) halogen, (b) cyano, (c) nitro, (d) trifluoromethyl, (e) trifluoromethoxy, (f) $-OR^{19}$, (g) $-SR^{20}$, (h) $-NR^{21}R^{22}$, (i) $-COR^{23}$, (j) $-COOR^{24}$, (k) $-NR^{25}COR^{26}$, (l) $-CONR^{27}R^{28}$, and (m) Cyc2;

R^{19} to R^{28} each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C_{1-8} alkyl, (3) C_{2-8} alkenyl, (4) C_{2-8} alkynyl, (5) Cyc2, or (6) C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{2-8} alkenyl or C_{2-8} alkynyl substituted with Cyc2;

Cyc2 represents a C_{3-8} monocyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s), wherein Cyc2 may be substituted with 1 to 5 of R^{29};

R^{29} represents (1) C_{1-8} alkyl, (2) C_{2-8} alkenyl, (3) C_{2-8} alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) hydroxyl, (8) trifluoromethyl, (9) trifluoromethoxy, or (10) $-OR^{100}$;

R^{100} represents C_{1-8} alkyl.;

R^3 and R^4 each independently represents hydrogen or C_{1-8} alkyl;

E^1 represents a bond or C_{1-6} alkylene, wherein a carbon atom in the alkylene group may be substituted with oxygen, sulfur, or $-NR^{30}-$;

R^{30} represents (1) C_{1-8} alkyl, (2) C_{2-8} alkenyl, (3) C_{2-8} alkynyl, (4) phenyl, or (5) C_{1-8} alkyl substituted with phenyl;

ring A^1 represents a C_{3-15} monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 15-membered monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s);

R^5 represents (1) C_{1-8} alkyl, (2) C_{2-8} alkenyl, (3) C_{2-8} alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) trifluoromethyl, (8) trifluoromethoxy, (9) $-OR^{31}$, (10) $-NR^{32}R^{33}$, (11) $-NR^{34}COR^{35}$, (12) Cyc3, or (13) C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{2-8} alkenyl or C_{2-8} alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) halogen, (b) cyano, (c) nitro, (d) trifluoromethyl, (e) trifluoromethoxy, (f) $-OR^{31}$, (g) $-NR^{32}COR^{33}$, (h) $-NR^{34}COR^{35}$, and (i) Cyc3;

R^{31} to R^{35} each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C_{1-8} alkyl, (3) C_{2-8} alkenyl, (4) C_{2-8} alkynyl, (5) Cyc3, or (6) C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{2-8} alkenyl or C_{2-8} alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) Cyc3, (b) $-OR^{36}$ and (c) $-NR^{37}R^{38}$;

R^{36} to R^{38} each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C_{1-8} alkyl, (3) $-OR^{39}$, or (4) $-NR^{40}R^{41}$;

R^{39} to R^{41} each independently represents hydrogen or C_{1-8} alkyl;

Cyc3 represents a C_{3-8} monocyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s);

ring B^1 represents a C_{3-8} monocyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as

~~a hetero atom(s)~~~~C_{3-15} monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic carbocyclic ring or a 3- to 15-membered monocyclic, bicyclic or tricyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s)~~;

R^6 represents (1) C_{1-8} alkyl, (2) C_{2-8} alkenyl, (3) C_{2-8} alkynyl, (4) halogen, (5) cyano, (6) nitro, (7) trifluoromethyl, (8) trifluoromethoxy, (9) $-OR^{42}$, (10) $-NR^{43}R^{44}$, (11) $-SR^{101}$, (12) $-SO_2R^{102}$, (13) $-COR^{103}$, (14) $-COOR^{104}$, (15) Cyc2, or (16) C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{2-8} alkenyl or C_{2-8} alkynyl substituted with 1 to 5 groups selected from (a) $-COOR^{104}$, (b) $-NR^{105}COR^{106}$, and (c) Cyc2;

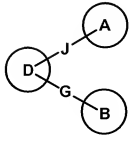
R^{42} to R^{44} and R^{101} to R^{106} each independently represents (1) hydrogen, (2) C_{1-8} alkyl, (3) Cyc2, or (4) $-COR^{107}$, or (5) C_{1-8} alkyl substituted with 1 to 5 halogen atoms;

R^{107} represents C_{1-8} alkyl; and

p and q each independently represents 0 or an integer of 1 to 5.

34. (withdrawn): A prodrug for the compound according to claim 1.

35. (currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition which comprises the compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein

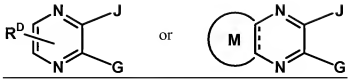
ring A, ring B, and ring D each independently represents a cyclic group which may be substituted;

J represents a bond or a spacer having 1 to 8 atoms in its main chain; and

G represents a bond or a spacer having 1 to 4 atoms in its main chain;

wherein

is



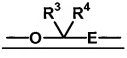
wherein R^D represents a substituent of ring D;

⁼⁼⁼⁼ represents a single bond or a double bond; and

M represents a 3- to 11-membered monocyclic or bicyclic cyclic group which may be substituted;

ring B is a C_{3-8} monocyclic carbocyclic ring which may be substituted or a 3- to 8-membered monocyclic heterocyclic ring having 1 to 4 nitrogen atoms, 1 or 2 oxygen atoms and/or 1 or 2 sulfur atoms as a hetero atom(s) which may be substituted;

J is



wherein R^3 and R^4 each independently represents hydrogen or C_{1-8} alkyl; and

E represents a bond or a spacer having 1 to 6 atoms in its main chain;

G is $-NR^{T1}-SO_2-$

wherein R^{T1} represents hydrogen, C_{1-8} alkyl which may be substituted, C_{2-8} alkenyl which may be substituted, C_{2-8} alkynyl which may be substituted or a 3- to 8-membered cyclic group which may be substituted;

or a salt thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

36. (currently amended): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 35, which ~~is~~ has an activity of a chemokine receptor antagonist.

37. (original): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 36, wherein the chemokine receptor is CCR4.

38. (currently amended): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 37, which ~~is~~ has an activity for ~~a preventive and/or therapeutic agent for~~ treating CCR4-mediated diseases.

39. (original): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 38, wherein the CCR4-mediated diseases are inflammatory and/or allergic diseases, metabolism and/or endocrine system diseases, cancer diseases or infections.

40. (original): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 39, wherein the CCR4-mediated diseases are inflammatory and/or allergic diseases.

41. (original): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 40, wherein the inflammatory and/or allergic diseases are respiratory diseases or dermatosis.

42. (original): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 41, wherein the respiratory diseases are asthma.

43. (original): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 41, wherein the dermatosis is atopic dermatitis.

44. (withdrawn-currently amended): A method for ~~preventing and/or~~ treating CCR4-mediated diseases in a mammal, which comprises administering to a mammal an effective amount of the compound according to claim 1 or a salt thereof.

45. (canceled).

46. (currently amended): A pharmaceutical composition which comprises: a ~~preventive and/or~~ therapeutic agent for CCR4-mediated diseases, which comprises the compound according to claim 1 or a salt thereof as an active ingredient; and one or at least two medicaments selected from a bronchodilator drug, a steroid drug, a non-steroidal antiinflammatory drug, a leukotriene receptor antagonist, a phosphodiesterase inhibitor, an immunosuppressant, an anti-allergic drug, a mediator-release inhibitor, an antihistamine drug, a metabolism promoter and/or a chemokine inhibitor.

47. (currently amended): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 35, which ~~is~~ has an activity of inhibiting ~~an inhibitor of~~ effector cell function.

48. (currently amended): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 47, which is ~~an inhibitor of~~ has an activity of inhibiting cell migration function.

49. (currently amended): The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 35, which ~~is~~ has an activity of regulating ~~a~~ TNFα ~~regulator~~.